

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A signal bearing medium tangibly embodying a program of machine-readable  
5 instructions executable by a digital processing apparatus to perform a method for  
responding to an inquiry, the method comprising the following operations:  
    receiving the inquiry;  
    obtaining information from a CIMOM;  
    creating at least one Storage Object;  
10     populating the at least one Storage Object with information received from the  
CIMOM; and  
    sending the at least one Storage Object to a calling function.
2. The signal bearing medium of claim 1, wherein the obtaining operation comprises  
15 using a CIM Client API to obtain requested information from the CIMOM.
3. The signal bearing medium of claim 1, wherein the operation of creating at least  
one Storage Object comprises creating a set of Storage Objects.
- 20 4. The signal bearing medium of claim 1, wherein the inquiry is an inquiry for  
information concerning a storage entity.
5. The signal bearing medium of claim 1, wherein each Storage Object is created by  
using a Java package comprising classes that define a plurality of storage entity objects.  
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6. The signal bearing medium of claim 5, wherein the plurality of storage entity  
objects include Disk Array System, Storage Pool, Volume, Host System, FCPort, and  
Disk, objects.

7. The signal bearing medium of claim 6, wherein the Disk Array System object is a top level object, and wherein each object other than the Disk Array System object is associated as a component of the Disk Array System object.
- 5 8. The signal bearing medium of claim 6, wherein the Disk Array System object is a top level object, and wherein at least one object other than the Disk Array System object is a subcomponent of an object other than the Disk Array System object.
- 10 9. The signal bearing medium of claim 1, wherein the creating operation comprises creating a plurality of Storage Objects, and wherein the Storage Objects have associations to each other that are consistent with corresponding storage entities' relationships modeled in a SMI/Bluefin profile.
- 15 10. The signal bearing medium of claim 1, wherein the creating operation comprises creating a plurality of Storage Objects, and wherein properties of each Storage Object map directly to properties of at least one CIM Class used to represent a corresponding storage entity.
- 20 11. The signal bearing medium of claim 1, wherein the inquiry is received from a SRM CIM Client Application.
12. The signal bearing medium of claim 1, wherein the inquiry is received from a CIM Discover Tool.
- 25 13. The signal bearing medium of claim 1, wherein the inquiry includes the unique ID of a designated storage entity, and is a request for a Storage Object corresponding with the designated storage entity.

14. The signal bearing medium of claim 1, wherein the inquiry includes the unique ID of a designated storage entity, and is a request for all storage entities of a specified type associated with the designated storage entity.
- 5 15. The signal bearing medium of claim 1, wherein the inquiry includes information identifying a top level storage entity type and information identifying a specific CIMOM, and is a request for information about all entities of the identified top level storage entity type that are managed by the identified CIMOM.
- 10 16. The signal bearing medium of claim 1, wherein the inquiry includes the unique ID of an identified top level storage entity, and wherein the receiving, obtaining, creating, populating, and sending operations are repeated to obtain information concerning the identified top level storage entity and all of the components of the identified top level storage entity.
- 15 17. The signal bearing medium of claim 1, wherein the inquiry includes the unique ID of a component storage entity, and wherein the receiving, obtaining, creating, populating, and sending operations are repeated to obtain information concerning the component storage entity and subcomponents of the component storage entity.
- 20 18. The signal bearing medium of claim 1, wherein the inquiry includes the unique ID of a component storage entity, and wherein the receiving, obtaining, creating, populating, and sending operations are repeated to obtain information concerning the component storage entity and the component storage entity's relationships to other components.
- 25 19. A computing system, comprising:  
a memory; and

a processing device coupled to the memory, wherein the processing device is programmed to perform operations for responding to an inquiry, the operations comprising:

- 5 receiving the inquiry from a calling function;
- obtaining requested information from a CIMOM;
- creating at least one Storage Object;
- populating the at least one Storage Object with information received from the CIMOM; and
- 10 sending the at least one Storage Object to the calling function.

20. A method for responding to an inquiry, comprising the following operations:

- receiving the inquiry from a calling function;
- obtaining requested information from a CIMOM;
- creating a plurality of Storage Objects;
- 15 populating the plurality of Storage Objects with information received from the CIMOM; and
- sending the at least one Storage Object to the calling function; and
- wherein properties of each Storage Object map directly to properties of at least one CIM Class used to represent a corresponding storage entity; and
- 20 wherein the obtaining operation comprises using a CIM Client API to obtain the requested information from the CIMOM.